

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1-3 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings and claims as originally filed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, alleging them to be indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended Claims 1-3 in an attempt to overcome the Examiner's §112 rejection. In light of the amendments, Applicant believes the claims to overcome the Examiner's §112 rejection and respectfully request withdrawal of the same.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Walton, II (U.S. Patent No. 4,238,884).

Claim 1 defines a support apparatus for supporting a reciprocating working member of a tool. The working member rotates relative to the body. Also, the mount mounts the apparatus with the working member to enable the support to remain in engagement with the working member during rotation relative to the body about the axis. The support and mount are positioned outside of the body.

The Walton reference fails to disclose or suggest rotation of the working member. Also, the support of Walton is mounted to the housing and is positioned within the housing or body of the tool. Further, the Walton "mount" does not mount with the

working reciprocating member as claimed. Accordingly, Walton fails to anticipate Claim 1.

Claim 2 includes a working member which executes pivoting reciprocating motion. The mount is rigidly connected to the support and mounts the apparatus with the working member to enable support to remain in engagement with the working member during pivoting reciprocation motion relative to the body of the axis. The support and mount are positioned outside of the body.

As mentioned above, Walton fails to disclose or suggest the mount mounting the apparatus with the working reciprocating member nor does it show the support and mount position outside the body of the tool. Accordingly, Walton fails to anticipate Claim 2.

Claim 3 claims a tool which has a working member with rotational as well as pivotal movement. The mount is rigidly connected to the support and mounts the support with the working member. The support and mount are outside of the tool body. As mentioned above, Walton fails to disclose or suggest these features. Accordingly, Walton fails to anticipate Claim 3. Claims 4-12 depend from Claim 3. Accordingly, Walton would fail to anticipate these claims.

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gerber (U.S. Patent No. 6,131,498).

The Gerber reference illustrates a tool which enables the blade 42 to extend outside of the tool. All of the elements, except a portion of the blade, are positioned inside the envelope of the tool. Further, the mount, while rigidly connected to the

support, does not mount the support with the working reciprocating member. Thus, the Gerber reference fails to anticipate Claim 1.

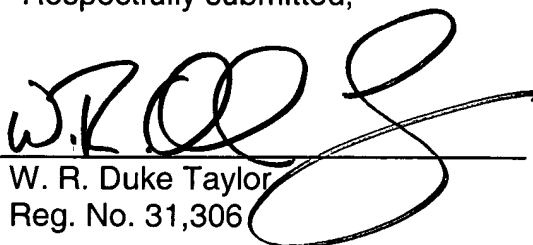
With respect to Claim 2, Gerber neither discloses nor suggests a pivoting movement of the working member. Thus, Gerber fails to anticipate Claim 2.

Likewise, with respect to Claim 3, Gerber fails to disclose or suggest both types of movement. Accordingly, Gerber fails to anticipate Claim 3. Thus, Gerber fails to anticipate Claims 4-7 and 9 of Applicant's disclosure.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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